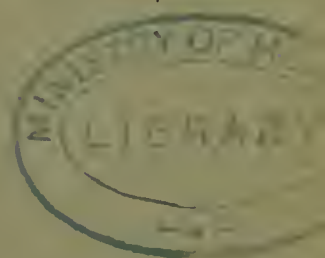


COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOOTLE



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year ended 31st December, 1951

T. R. ROBERTON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

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BOOTLE:
BOOTLE TIMES, LTD., 30 ORIEL ROAD.

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FOREWORD

*The Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the County Borough of Bootle.*

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report for the year 1951, being the seventy-ninth of the series, on the health of the people of the County Borough of Bootle.

From a study of the vital statistics given in the report, it is pleasing to note that new low records for the Borough were established for the infant mortality rate and the death rates both from Pulmonary Tuberculosis and Tuberculosis (all forms).

The total number of live births was 1,554, being 32 less than the previous year. This gives a birth rate of 20·8 per 1,000 population, as against 22·6 for 1950. Though the birth rate is showing a continuous decline from the peak year of 1947 when it was 30·3, the rate is well above that of England and Wales, which is 15·5 per 1,000 population. The total number of deaths from all causes was 901, giving a general death rate of 12·0 per thousand, as against 701 deaths with a rate of 10·0 per thousand for the previous year, and 12·5 for that of England and Wales.

In considering this increase of 200 in the deaths over the previous year, it is to be noted that 153 of these deaths occurred in the age group 65 years and upwards. In this age group, 33 deaths were due to Influenza, as against none in 1950; 44 deaths from Pneumonia, as against 15; and 63 deaths from Bronchitis, as against 37 in 1950. There was a total of 49 deaths due to Influenza, as against none in 1950. The Influenza epidemic appeared in Scandinavia in November and December, and spread to the whole of Northern Europe, reaching Great Britain by the middle of December, and appearing simultaneously at Newcastle and Merseyside. The epidemic was widespread but of short duration, and a glance at the deaths in age groups shows that the fatality chiefly affected the elderly. The following table shows the Influenza deaths in the Borough in age groups.

1 death in age group	1—5 yrs.
4 deaths	15—45 yrs.
11	45—65 yrs.
33	65 yrs. and over.

The Infant Mortality Rate was 39·9 per 1,000 live births, as against 47·3 for the previous year, and though it is pleasing to report that it is the lowest ever recorded, it is still higher than that of England and Wales, namely 29·6. Of the 62 deaths of infants under 1 year of age, 28 died in the first week and a total of 37 died in the first month of life. Prematurity and congenital malformations accounted for 42 deaths in all. With greater ante-natal care and increased medical supervision it is to be hoped that the rate will be lowered still further.

The arrangements made for the immunisation of children against diphtheria were the same as in the previous years, 871 children receiving a complete course of inoculation. The success of this method of prevention is well seen in that no case of diphtheria occurred during the year. At present, it is estimated that 50·2 per cent. of the children under 5 years and 69·0 per cent. of the children aged 5—15 years have been protected by inoculation, but it is to be regretted that greater advantage is not taken of the facilities available for inoculation, as unless the percentage of inoculated children is kept at a high level there is always a risk that this disease will reappear amongst the population.

It is pleasing to note the slow but continued improvement with regard to tuberculosis, both in the number of cases notified and also in the death rates. The death rate from pulmonary tuberculosis was 0·49 and from tuberculosis (all forms) 0·54, as compared with 0·84 and 0·88 per 1,000 population in the previous year. These rates are the lowest ever recorded and show the effect of modern medical treatment with the new drugs, streptomycin and P.A.S.

The Authority's scheme, in conjunction with the Chest Physician, for the vaccination of infant contacts of cases of tuberculosis with B.C.G. commenced in 1951. A total of 52 children was vaccinated, most of these being the babies of Bootle mothers confined in Walton Hospital.

On page 40 and onwards will be found a detailed account of the work of the sanitary inspectorate. During the year, special surveys

were undertaken as regards cellar dwellings and also of all the factories and workshops in the Borough.

In conclusion, I should like to tender to you, and especially to your Health Committee and its Chairman, to the Town Clerk and the Chief Officials of the Corporation, my thanks for your encouragement and consideration, and to all the staff of the department my grateful acknowledgment of their help and assistance.

T. R. ROBERTON,

Medical Officer of Health.

Section 1.

Constitution of Committees

Health Committee

COUNCILLOR DR. BROWN, J.P., Chairman.

MR. COUNCILLOR ELLIS, Deputy Chairman.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR R. J. ROGERSON).

MR ALDERMAN T. CONNOLLY.

MR. COUNCILLOR HARDACRE.

MR. ALDERMAN HARRISON.

COUNCILLOR DR. HARRIS, J.P.

ALDERMAN MRS. PRITCHARD.

MR. COUNCILLOR HEVEY.

MR. ALDERMAN SPENCE, J.P.

MR. COUNCILLOR HIGHAM.

MR. COUNCILLOR CAIN, J.P.

MR. COUNCILLOR HOUGHTON.

Co-opted Members :—

Representatives of the Bootle Local Medical Committee:

DR. T. M. JONES and DR. J. S. WOOD.

Representative of the Bootle Local Dental Practitioners Committee:

MR. J. D. CRIGHTON, J.P.

Representative of the Bootle Pharmaceutical Committee:

MR. L. D. PARRY.

Representative of the Bootle General Hospital:

MR. W. ROSS, J.P.

General Health Committee

COUNCILLOR DR. BROWN, J.P., Chairman

Mr. COUNCILLOR ELLIS, Deputy Chairman.

HIS WORSHIP THE MAYOR (COUNCILLOR R. J. ROGERSON).

MR ALDERMAN T. CONNOLLY.

MR. COUNCILLOR HARDACRE.

MR. ALDERMAN HARRISON.

COUNCILLOR DR. HARRIS, J.P.

ALDERMAN MRS. PRITCHARD.

MR. COUNCILLOR HEVEY.

MR. ALDERMAN SPENCE, J.P.

MR. COUNCILLOR HIGHAM.

MR. COUNCILLOR CAIN, J.P.

MR. COUNCILLOR HOUGHTON.

Section II.

Staff

Medical Officer of Health:

T. R. ROBERTSON, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H. (from 1st February).

Deputy Medical Officer of Health:

M. B. CLARKE, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officers of Health:

C. M. CONNOLLY, M.B., B.CH.

B. S. JARVIS, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
(from 1st March).

Tuberculosis Officer (Joint Appointment):

G. H. MURRAY, M.B., CH.B., M.R.C.P.E.
(to 30/9/51).

P. O. LEGGAT, M.D., M.R.C.P.
(from 1/10/51).

Senior Dental Officer:

H. B. DAWES, L.D.S.

Assistant Dental Officers:

(Two vacancies).

Chief Administrative Assistant and Health Education Officer:

H. ALLEN LORD, B.A., A.C.C.S.

Superintendent Nursing Officer:

MISS E. DOWD, S.R.N., S.C.M.,
H.V.CERT.

Health Visitor (Tuberculosis):

MISS J. LYNCH (from 14th May).

MISS E. P. STARK (to 13th May).

MISS S. RECK.

Visiting Specialists:

I. A. TOMARKIN, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.,
D.L.O., Aural Surgeon.

E. ALLAN, M.B., CH.B.,
Ophthalmic Surgeon.

F. C. DWYER, M.B., CH.B., F.R.C.S.,
M.CH.ORTH., Orthopaedic Surgeon.

Consultant Obstetrician:

P. MALPAS, M.B., CH.M., F.R.C.S.,
F.R.C.O.G.

Part-time Assistant Medical Officer:

G. LENNON, M.B., CH.B., D.R.C.O.G.

Public Analyst:

J. F. CLARK, M.SC., D.I.C., F.R.I.C.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:

W. H. WATTLEWORTH, F.R.SAN.I.,
M.R.I.P.H.H., M.S.I.A.

District Sanitary Inspectors:

W. E. LEATHER, Deputy Chief Sanitary
Inspector.

D. C. CAHILL (from 5th April).

J. M. CANGLEY.

S. T. DAVIES

A. DOWNIE

S. HESKETH (Meat & Foods Inspector).

W. J. MASON.

Municipal Midwives:

MRS. E. H. HOY (Non-Medical Supervisor)

MRS. M. A. E. CHAMBERLAIN.

MRS. M. W. DREWERY.

MRS. W. J. COLLINS.

MRS. L. LINACRE (Temp. from 19th July)

MRS. G. A. NEWNES.

MRS. C. K. ROBERTS.

MRS. R. SHAW.

MRS. C. C. TAYLOR (from 22nd January)

MISS A. E. THRASH.

MRS. W. WORTHINGTON.

Clerks:

MR. H. A. BROWN, O.B.E. (*Chief Clerk*).
 MRS. E. ALLINSON.
 MISS K. BURGESS.
 MR. D. C. CAHILL (to 4th April).
 MRS. J. M. JAMES.
 MISS D. M. LATIMER.
 MISS D. A. RIMMER (from 30th July).
 MISS M. TURNER.
 MISS A. M. GIRVAN (*Clinic Assistant*).

MISS A. E. KELLEY *do.*
(from 18th July).

MRS. D. MURPHY *do.*
(to 17th July).

MISS G. WILLIAMS (*Dental Attendant*).

MISS D. BERNARD *do.*

Ambulance Supervisor:

MR. J. FARRELY.

Section III.

Vital Statistics

Civilian Population (Registrar-General's estimate at mid-year							
1951)	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,850
Population at Census of 1951	...	...	...	...	...	...	74,302
Area in Acres (exclusive of river bed)	.....	...	...	...	...	...	3,054
Inhabited houses (end of 1951) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	...	17,384
Uninhabited houses (end of 1951) according to rate books	...	...	...	...	...	...	30
Live Births—Males 811, Females 743	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,554
Birth Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	...	20·8
Still Births—Males 15, Females 21	...	...	...	...	...	...	36
Stillbirth Rate (per 1,000 total live and still births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	22·6
Total Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	901
Death Rate (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12·0
Number of Maternal Deaths	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·6
Number of Deaths of Infants (under the age of one year)	...	...	...	...	...	...	62
(Legitimate 58, Illegitimate 4)							
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 live births)	...	...	...	...	...	...	39·9
(Legitimate 38·9, Illegitimate 61·5)							
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Number of Deaths from Respiratory Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·49
Number of Deaths from all forms of Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	41
Death Rate from all forms of Tuberculosis (per 1,000 population)	...	...	...	...	...	...	0·54

The Rateable Value of the Borough as at 1st April, 1951, was £521,909

The estimated product of a Penny Rate for 1951-52 £2,000

In 1951-52 the General Rate was 20/9d. in the £.

The cost of the Health Services during 1951/52 was estimated at £43,089, equivalent to a rate of 1s. 9·57d. in the £.

Area Comparability factors—Births 0·97, Deaths 1·35,

Section IV.

Comparison of Statistics with those of Previous Years.

Population

The Census returns from the year 1881 show the population of the Borough as follows:—

1881	...	...	...	...	...	...	27,374
1891	...	...	...	...	...	...	49,217
1901	...	...	...	...	...	...	58,556
1911	...	...	...	...	...	...	69,876
1921	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,487
1931	...	...	...	...	...	...	76,770
1951	...	...	..	...	...	...	74,302

The Registrar-General's estimate of the civilian population at mid-year was 74,850. This estimate shows that the population of the Borough last year was 4,610 more than in the summer of 1950, this figure including members of the Merchant Navy at home and abroad, and the population in the area added to the Borough as a result of the Bootle Extension Act, 1950.

Marriages

The Superintendent Registrar states that the number of marriages during the year was 614.

From a total of 653 in 1938, the number of marriages rose to 891 in 1940, then dropped to 469 in 1941. This was followed by a steady rise to 662 in 1947. In 1948 the number fell to 624. In 1949 there was an increase to 661, followed by a decrease to 628 in 1950, and a further decrease this year.

Births.

During the year 1,554 live births were registered, representing a birth rate of 20·8 per 1,000 of the population, that for England and Wales being 15·5. There were 811 male and 743 female births. It will be noted that the birth rate is as usual well above the national rate,

BIRTH RATES, 1873-1951.

Period.	BOOTLE.		England & Wales
	Births.	Rate per 1,000.	Rate per 1,000.
1873—1880 ...	6,846	38·6	35·4
1881—1890 ...	15,508	36·8	32·4
1891—1900 ...	17,716	33·2	29·9
1901—1910 ...	20,468	32·3	27·2
1911—1920 ...	20,748	27·6	21·8
1921—1930 ...	18,884	22·8	18·4
1931—1935 ...	8,367	21·8	15·0
1936—1940 ...	7,959	21·6	14·9
1941 ...	1,199	22·8	14·2
1942 ...	1,104	23·9	15·8
1943 ...	1,327	26·5	16·5
1944 ...	1,574	28·2	17·6
1945 ...	1,429	24·4	16·1
1946 ...	1,797	27·9	19·1
1947 ...	2,022	30·3	20·5
1948 ...	1,700	24·5	17·9
1949 ...	1,541	22·0	16·7
1950 ...	1,586	22·6	15·8
1951 ...	1,554	20·8	15·5

The illegitimate births (including stillbirths) numbered 67 and were 4·2 per cent of the total live and still births. In 1950 the number was 73.

Deaths

The total number of deaths of Bootle residents during 1951 was 901, including 73 who died in institutions within the Borough, and 392 who died in institutions outside the Borough, of whom 11 died in mental hospitals. This gives a total of 465 deaths in institutions, *i.e.*, 51·6 per cent. of the total deaths, as compared with 54·7 per cent in 1950. The deaths during the year are equivalent to a death rate of 12·0 per 1,000, as compared with 10·0 per 1,000 in 1950. The rate for the 126 great towns of England and Wales is 13·4 per 1,000 population.

DEATH RATES, 1873-1951.

Period.	BOOTLE.		England & Wales.
	Total Deaths.	Rate per 1,000.	Rate per 1,000.
1873—1880 ...	3,823	21·7	21·2
1881—1890 ..	8,260	19·9	19·1
1891—1900 ...	10,942	20·6	18·2
1901—1910 ...	11,400	17·8	15·4
1911—1920 ..	12,470	17·1	14·3
1921—1930 ...	10,336	13·5	12·1
1931—1935 ...	5,212	13·5	12·0
1936—1940 ...	5,019	13·8	12·5
1941 ...	1,227	23·3	12·9
1942 ...	629	13·6	11·6
1943 ...	745	14·9	12·1
1944 ...	732	13·1	11·6
1945 ...	754	12·9	11·4
1946 ...	793	12·3	11·5
1947 ...	866	13·0	12·0
1948 ...	734	10·6	10·8
1949 ...	783	11·2	11·7
1950 ...	701	10·0	11·6
1951 ...	901	12·0	12·5

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY AND BIRTH RATES.

	Death Rate all causes per 1,000 of population.	Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of population.	Infant Mortality per 1,000 live births.
BOOTLE	12·0	20·8	39·8
126 County Boroughs and Great Towns	13·4	17·3	33·9
148 Smaller Towns.. (Resident population 25,000—50,000 at 1931 Census)	12·5	16·7	27·6
England and Wales	12·5	15·5	29·6

Causes of Death.

The causes of death, classified according to age, are shown in the table on page 60.

Communicable Diseases.—Epidemic diseases, excluding tuberculosis, accounted for 65 deaths. There were four deaths from whooping cough, and one from measles. Deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis numbered 7 as compared with 7 during 1950; 2 were of infants under one year.

Respiratory Diseases.—Pneumonia was responsible for 70 deaths, bronchitis for 97, and other respiratory diseases for 3, making the total deaths from respiratory diseases (excluding influenza and tuberculosis) 170. This amounts to 18·9 per cent. of the total deaths at all ages, as compared with 13·4 per cent. in 1950. Influenza was recorded as a cause of death in 49 cases.

Cancer.—Cancer was registered as the cause of death in 122 cases, as compared with 107 in the preceding year. This represents a cancer death-rate of 1·6 per 1,000 of the population as compared with 1·5 during the year 1950.

Violent Causes.—There were 28 deaths from violent causes (including 1 from road traffic accident) and 8 from suicide.

Neo-Natal Mortality.—Thirty-seven children died before reaching the age of one month, of whom twenty-eight died during the first week of life. This gives a neo-natal mortality rate of 23·8 per 1,000 births. Prematurity was responsible for 14 of the neo-natal deaths.

Infant Mortality.—There were 62 deaths of infants under the age of one year, compared with 75 in 1950. The infant mortality rate was 39·9 per 1,000 births, compared with 47·3 in 1950. The average rate for the previous five years was 64·5.

The rate of infant mortality in males was 44·4 and in females 35·0. Throughout England and Wales the rate of infant mortality was 29·6 per 1,000 births, and in the 126 great towns it was 33·9.

The most important of the causes of infant death were: Bronchitis and pneumonia 10, congenital malformations, birth injuries and diseases peculiar to infancy 27, whooping cough 3, diarrhoea and enteritis 2, premature birth 15.

The rate of infant mortality in legitimate infants was 38·9 and in illegitimate infants it was 61·5.

INFANT MORTALITY RATE—BOOTLE COMPARED WITH ENGLAND AND WALES

Years.	BOOTLE.	England & Wales.
1901-05	166	138
1906-10	130	117
1911-15	133	110
1916-20	103	91
1921-25	91	76
1926-30	89	68
1931-35	87	62
1936-40	74	55
1941-45	77·2	49·8
1946	75	43
1947	91·5	41
1948	54·1	34
1949	54·5	32
1950	47·3	29·8
1951	39·9	29·6

A tabular statement of the causes of death of children under the age of one year is given on page 61.

Deaths of Children aged 1-5 years.—There were 11 deaths of children aged 1 to 5 years, as compared with 6 in 1950. The causes of death were pneumonia 2, accident 2, influenza 1, congenital malformations 1, gastritis 1, whooping cough 1, other causes 2.

Maternal Mortality.—There was one death certified as due to pregnancy or childbirth during the year; but no deaths occurred from puerperal fever. This patient had a normal confinement in hospital but died from shock and post-partum haemorrhage in spite of repeated blood transfusions. The circumstances of the death were investigated by the Medical Officer of Health and a confidential report was forwarded to the Departmental Committee on Maternal Mortality set up by the Ministry of Health.

Inquests.—Inquests were held on 46 deaths.

Section V.

Services Provided Under Part III of the National Health Service Act, 1946

Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Notification of Births.

The number of births notified under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, was 782 live births and 10 still births. In addition, notifications were received from hospitals outside the Borough of 874 live births and 26 still births to Bootle mothers.

Care of Premature Infants.

Notification is made in cases where the birth weight is 5½lb. or less. In the case of domiciliary confinements every effort is made to secure a separate bedroom for mother and infant, and to provide a draught-proof cot with detachable lining, suitable bedding, hot water bottles and special feeding bottles; if any of the latter requirements are not available they can be provided on loan from the Health Department.

In every case of premature birth occurring at home, close liaison is observed between the midwifery staff and the health visitors. Special reference is made by the hospital authorities to the midwifery service when premature babies are discharged from hospital. Information is given as to the child's general condition and methods of feeding, special attention being paid to these cases by the staff. Before the midwife relinquishes responsibility, arrangements are made for the Health Visitor for the district to take over early supervision.

The following notifications of premature births to mothers ordinarily resident in the Borough were received:—

In Borough—

(a) Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
(b) Bootle Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	13

Outside Borough—

(a) Walton Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66
(b) Liverpool Maternity Hospital	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
(c) Other Hospitals, Nursing Homes, and Private Addresses	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	17

Public Health (Ophthalmic Neonatorum) Regulations, 1926 to 1937.

Four cases of ophthalmia neonatorum were notified during the year; the vision was unimpaired in both cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics.

Four Ante-Natal Clinics were held each week throughout the year. During the year 735 cases attended, corresponding to 47·3 per cent. of the total registered births; in addition 241 cases carried over from the preceding year continued under supervision, and a total of 3,038 attendances was made, with an average of 15 patients per session. It should be noted that Bootle patients intending to enter Walton Hospital for confinement usually attend the Ante-Natal Clinic held at that Institution.

Post-Natal Clinics.

During the year 92 mothers attended for post-natal examination.

Infant Welfare Clinics.

Five infant clinic sessions were conducted weekly throughout the year.

INFANT WELFARE CLINICS.

Clinic.	New Cases.			Attendances.				
	Under one year.	One to five years.	Total.	Under one year.	One to five-years.	Total.	No. of Sessions	Average attendance at clinic.
<i>Health Centre—</i>								
Monday afternoon ..	166	22	188	1187	159	1346	47	28·6
Wednesday afternoon	213	22	235	1859	214	2073	51	40·6
Thursday afternoon .	194	16	210	1912	153	2065	52	39·7
<i>Hertford Road</i> <i>Church Hall—</i>								
Tuesday afternoon ..	138	1	139	1198	125	1323	51	26·0
Thursday afternoon..	120	12	132	966	178	1144	50	22·9
Totals	821	73	904	7122	829	7951	251	31·7

Supply of Cod Liver Oil and Fruit Juices.

The scheme of the Ministry of Food for distribution of fruit juices and cod liver oil to mothers and young children was continued during the year, and this valuable supplement to the vitamin content of their diet is available to all expectant mothers and to children up to the age of five years.

Issues of vitamin products to infants and expectant mothers through the Council's clinics and Nursery Classes were as follows:—

		<i>Free.</i>		<i>Sold.</i>		<i>% of potential output.</i>
Cod Liver Oil (bottles)	...	13,959	...	—	...	20·0
Orange Juice (bottles)	...	2,500	...	36,420	...	23·0
A. & D. Tablets	...	3,372	...	—	...	31·0

Residential Nursery, Formby.

This Residential Nursery, which was opened on 5th December, 1945, for the reception of twenty-two infants, has made a valuable contribution to the maternity and child welfare service in that it accommodated the infants of mothers who were in hospital or maternity home, or whose economic status made it necessary for the child to be temporarily cared for away from home. The administration of the Nursery is now the responsibility of the Children's Committee.

Every child on admission and discharge is seen by one of the medical officers of the Public Health Department, and the Department is responsible for the routine medical examination of the children while they are resident in the Nursery.

Convalescent Home Provision.

During the year 6 children under five years of age and 97 children over that age were sent to convalescent homes.

Convalescence was also arranged in 30 cases for mothers accompanied by their children.

Care of Illegitimate Children.

Special arrangements for the care of illegitimate children have been operating for some years. One of the Health Visitors is responsible for taking such action as is possible in the interests of the unmarried mother and her child.

Seventy-one cases were dealt with; these came to the notice of the Department from the following sources:—

Before Confinement—

Moral Welfare Agencies	5
Walton Hospital	20
Ante-natal Clinics	9
Municipal Midwives	5
Health Visitors	10
Mothers' own application	5
Other Authorities	2
	<hr/>
	56
<i>Birth Notifications</i>	15
	<hr/>
	71

The work done in this connection comprised 754 visits to homes and 10 office interviews.

Nine of the unmarried mothers were admitted to Homes of the Moral Welfare Agencies at the expense of the Corporation. Three unmarried mothers subsequently married.

The final disposal of the infants was as follows:—

Remained with mother	64
Legal adoption	7
Removed from district, or death	—

The Liverpool Child Welfare Association.

Representatives of this Association have attended clinics weekly to undertake on behalf of the Council arrangements for the supply and fitting of orthopaedic appliances prescribed by the medical staff, and the provision of clothing, fireguards and convalescent home treatment. During the year the Association dealt with 306 new cases (65 children under 5 years and 241 school children); 103 children were sent to Convalescent Homes, with an average stay for 6 children under five of 40·6 days and for 97 children over five years of 28·04 days.

The staff visited 1,353 cases at home, and 1,050 cases were interviewed at the clinic.

Municipal Midwifery Service.

Notification of Intention to Practise.

Twenty midwives gave notice during the year of their intention to practise midwifery in the Borough; 11 of these were municipal midwives, 1 in a private Nursing Home, and 8 in the Bootle Maternity Home.

Cases attended by Municipal Midwives.

Cases attended (a) as midwife	...	...	...	...	402
(b) as maternity nurse	...	...	...	...	28
Home Visits (ante-natal)	...	...	...	...	2,850
„ „ (puerperium)	...	...	...	...	7,131

In addition the midwives made 2,466 home visits to 755 cases discharged from hospital or maternity home before the fourteenth day.

Of the total of 1,590 live and still births to Bootle mothers the municipal midwives attended 438 births (27·5 per cent.), and the remaining births took place in following institutions:—

Walton Hospital	...	...	...	...	653
Liverpool Maternity Hospital	...	...	...	...	95
Bootle Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	268
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	...	—
Other hospitals, private residences, etc.	...	...	...	...	136

(These figures include 36 stillbirths.)

Patients engage the services of the midwife nearest to their own homes, and the midwife is responsible for their ante-natal care from the date of booking.

Gas and Air Analgesia

Eleven municipal midwives are qualified to administer gas-air analgesia; four sets of apparatus are in use.

During the year gas-air analgesia was given in 396 cases.

Medical Aid.

The services of a medical practitioner were requested in 49 domiciliary maternity cases during the year. In 27 cases the medical practitioners had arranged to provide the patient with maternity medical services under the National Health Service. In the remaining 22 cases the Local Authority paid the fees of the practitioners.

Transport.

The Superintendent Midwife receives a car allowance of £25 per annum, and one of the domiciliary midwives a car allowance of £15

per annum. Those municipal midwives who possess a bicycle receive an allowance of 7/6 per month. During the night, if public service vehicles are not available, transport is provided from the Ambulance Depot, and if a vehicle is not available from the Depot the midwives hire a taxi.

Health Visiting.

Home Visitation.

The staff paid 21,740 home visits, including 7,875 visits to infants under one year, and 10,016 visits to children aged from one to five years.

Home Visits to Expectant Mothers.

The Health Visitors paid 811 home visits to expectant mothers to advise them on general and personal hygiene, with a view to promoting normal childbirth.

Staff.

The establishment provides for one Superintendent Nursing Officer and ten full-time health visitors, of whom one is mainly responsible for the care of unmarried mothers and their children. At the end of the year nine health visitors were employed, and it has not been possible to maintain a full staff.

Because of the difficulty of obtaining health visitors, the Committee in November 1948 approved of a scheme for the engagement of student health visitors who would attend a whole-time course of training at the Liverpool University School of Hygiene and would receive during the first year three-quarters of the minimum salary laid down for health visitors in the Rushcliffe Report. After the period of training they would return to the service of the Authority for the remainder of the twelve months, and if successful in obtaining the Health Visitor's Certificate would, if required, give a further twelve months' service to the Authority. Two students obtained the certificate during the year.

Home Nursing.

Premises.

The residential headquarters of the Home Nursing Service have been established at 11, Breeze Hill since 30th September, 1949. The house is a large semi-detached, three-storeyed house providing ample accommodation for the staff and for the other requirements of a Home Nursing Headquarters.

Staff.

Miss J. F. Stoddart was appointed Superintendent from 2nd April.

At the end of the year the staff consisted of Matron, four other State Registered Nurses, three Enrolled Assistant Nurses, and two part-time non-enrolled Assistant Nurses.

The influenza epidemic at the beginning of the year threw a great strain on the service, which was carried out efficiently in spite of staff depletions, and the manner in which the Home Nurses carried out their duties during the epidemic gained the approbation of the Local Medical Committee.

Visits.

During the year 21,489 visits were paid to 1,186 patients, including 121 cases carried over from 1950.

Transport.

The Home Nurses are granted a cycle allowance of 7/6 per month.

Vaccination and Immunisation.*Vaccination.*

During the year vaccination continued to be carried out by general practitioners and by the Local Health Authority's medical staff. The numbers dealt with were as follows:

By general practitioners	...	...	...	399
By Local Health Authority's staff	...	...	...	388

The proportion of children under one year vaccinated represents 47.2 per cent. of the live births during the year.

During 1932 a scheme was inaugurated whereby a specific clinic appointment for immunisation against diphtheria is made to parents when their children reach the age of nine months. During the year a total of 871 children completed the series of inoculations. This compares with 1,073 children inoculated in 1950. A reinforcing inoculation was given to 121 previously inoculated children on their reaching school age. The present position is that 50.2 per cent. of children under five years of age, and 69.0 per cent. of children between the ages of five and fifteen years have been protected against this disease.

Parents are advised that immunisation can be carried out either by their own doctor or by the Local Health Authority's medical staff.

The following table shows the number of children completing the series of inoculations since the inauguration of the scheme.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Age at date of inoculation.	1932	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	Total
Under one year	—	—	—	1	—	1	3	3	2	1	4	4	48	53	94	554	679	421	277	374	Under five years — 3967
1-2 years	6	5	36	34	31	32	46	44	43	45	196	314	459	720	649	417	320	332	410	399	
2-3 "	12	11	39	75	40	48	46	46	46	64	239	250	157	154	81	48	50	62	43	35	
3-4 "	15	22	62	70	47	46	33	49	29	108	208	156	74	91	60	36	42	32	26	25	
4-5 "	18	28	43	55	46	35	33	37	22	76	209	193	100	52	64	37	36	49	38	10	
5-6 "	112	242	311	279	278	191	334	66	15	213	405	338	221	211	352	187	206	232	225	12	5-10 years — 4750
6-7 "	237	224	194	267	232	261	190	199	4	440	290	135	71	57	79	38	56	36	40	4	
7-8 "	45	242	35	40	21	40	23	10	6	115	135	56	16	11	10	1	2	5	6	1	
8-9 "	4	62	12	10	14	12	9	7	3	44	101	52	9	6	5	—	—	2	1	1	
9-10 "	2	20	9	6	4	3	1	6	—	28	52	41	5	5	4	1	4	3	1	1	
10-11 "	1	1	3	10	7	4	4	1	1	45	90	52	4	2	5	1	1	—	—	2	10-15 years — 4217
11-12 "	—	2	5	10	4	1	4	4	1	50	56	45	3	2	3	2	—	—	—	2	
12-13 "	—	1	1	4	7	2	—	1	—	38	80	38	—	3	6	—	1	2	2	—	
13-14 "	—	—	3	2	4	—	1	—	—	36	96	22	4	—	2	—	1	2	—	—	
14-15 "	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	30	58	15	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	
15 years & over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	28	2	1	—	4	—	1	2	3	5	7905
Age not known	100	120	19	2	76	29	20	5	—	9	13	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	396
TOTALS	582	980	773	865	812	705	747	478	172	1342	2260	1713	1172	1369	1420	1322	1399	1180	1073	871	21,235

Ambulance Service.

Administration.

The Ambulance Service is under the control of the Medical Officer of Health.

Mutual Aid.

Arrangements with the Lancashire County Council and the Liverpool City Council for mutual aid in cases of emergency have been continued.

Vehicles.

A new Daimler ambulance was delivered in August and the number of vehicles in use now comprises the Daimler ambulance, two Bedford chassis with Lomas bodies, and two Austin ambulances, together with a Chrysler saloon which is used for sitting cases. The two Austin vehicles are very old and it is hoped to replace them next year.

Staff.

At the beginning of the year the number of ambulance driver/attendants was reduced from 21 to 17 (in addition to the supervisor and telephonist). This reduction was brought about by a re-arrangement of duties, so that the majority of the staff are on day shifts between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., and the number of men on night duty has been reduced. This reduction in staff has effected economies in the cost of the service but has not interfered with its efficiency.

Accommodation.

In the early part of the year the vehicles were moved into improved garage accommodation, and the staff were accommodated in a Nissen hut which was reconstructed for the purpose. This accommodation marks a considerable advance on the premises previously used.

During the year the numbers of calls dealt with was as follows:—

		Day. 7 a.m.—11 p.m.	Night. 11 p.m.—7 a.m.
Hospital Transfers	...	2,473	80
Accidents (a) Docks	...	393	68
(b) Elsewhere	...	524	61
Sickness and Maternity	...	1,944	471
Removals on behalf of Lanes. C.C.	...	25	2
Removals on behalf of Liverpool			
Council	...	15	1
Mental Health Service	...	212	5
Others	...	387	15
		<hr/> 5,973 <hr/>	<hr/> 703 <hr/>

In 1950 the comparative figures were 5,514 day calls and 647 night calls.

The number of patients in the above categories removed during the year was 14,791, as against 12,351 last year.

In addition, 186 cases of infectious disease were removed to hospital by the ambulance allocated to this work, which also conveyed 527 tuberculous patients for X-ray examination, re-fills, etc.

Prevention of Illness (Care and After Care)

Tuberculosis.

The Health Committee has appointed a Care Sub-Committee to deal with the special problems of tuberculous patients in the home. In addition to the visits paid by the Tuberculosis Visitor, visits to the homes of tuberculous patients are paid by Health Visitors and assistance is given in providing nursing requisites, sputum flasks, etc. Where the housing accommodation is overcrowded or unsuitable, representations are made by the Medical Officer of Health to the Housing Committee so that priority can be given to such cases.

B.C.G. Vaccination.

At the beginning of the year the approval of the Ministry of Health was obtained to an amendment of the Council's proposals under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, to permit the Council to provide for B.C.G. vaccination in suitable cases for persons in contact with tuberculous infection. During the year 52 children were vaccinated.

Mental Illness or Defectiveness.

Two whole-time mental health workers are engaged, and they made 137 pre-care and 466 after-care visits during the year.

There is no Occupation Centre in Bootle for mental defectives, but eleven defectives attend the Centre at Waterloo by arrangement with the Lancashire County Council. Such a centre in the Borough would be a great boon to parents of defective children.

Provision of Sick-room Equipment.

Articles of sick-room equipment are stored at the headquarters of the Home Nursing Service and are issued on loan. A deposit is requested and is refunded when the articles are returned in good condition.

Convalescence.

In accordance with Section 28 of the National Health Service Act 1946 convalescence not involving medical treatment was arranged for patients recommended by general practitioners. A period of convalescence was approved by the Health Committee for 41 patients.

Health Education.*General Publicity.*

The use of the Exhibition Service of the Central Council for Health Education has been continued during the year and various topics displayed on the exhibition stand at the Health Centre. In addition other posters and leaflets issued by the Central Council have been utilised.

In connection with the Festival of Britain celebrations a Civic Week was held, and the activities of the various departments formed the subject of an interesting exhibition in the Town Hall. In this connection opportunity was taken to display posters and photographs illustrating the work of the department in the prevention of illness and the remedying of nuisances, with special reference to ante-natal and infant welfare clinics, immunisation, and rat pests.

At the request of the Headmaster of one of the local schools a supply of posters was sent for display in the School Medical Room and the Parents' Waiting Room, and these have been replaced from time to time. In this way a variety of topics has been presented to the parents and scholars.

Spastic Children.

In February a film dealing with the education and treatment of spastic children at Carlson House, Birmingham, was shown to medical staff, health visitors, school nurses and parents, together with the Director of Education, the Home Teacher and other interested members of his staff.

Cleanliness in Catering Establishments.

The Chief Bacteriologist of Deosan, Ltd., attended at the Health Office in February to give an illustrated lecture to sanitary inspectors on the bacteriological examination of crockery, cutlery, etc., used in catering establishments and the measures which can be taken to obviate risk of infection.

As requested by the Ministry of Food notices requesting the public not to bring dogs into premises in which food is sold were despatched to the local shopkeepers, cafe proprietors, etc., who showed a willingness to co-operate.

Domestic Help Service

During the year the equivalent of 13 full-time workers has been engaged, together with the supervisor, and 150 new cases received assistance; these with 38 cases carried over from 1950 represent 26,661 working hours.

The following is a classification of the cases assisted:—

Type of Cases			Households provided		No. of Hours	
			with help.		worked.	
(a) Tuberculosis	...	...	8	...	2,979	
(b) Maternity	...	...	49	...	3,350	
(c) Others (e.g. acute illness chronic sick, aged and in- firm	...	...	131	...	20,332	
			<hr/> 188		<hr/> 26,661	

The householders utilising the service have been required to pay towards the cost in accordance with the scale recommended by the Association of Municipal Corporations, but they have the right to appeal against the assessment in cases where this scale would impose undue hardship.

Section VI.

Mental Health Service

The Mental Health Section of the Department continued throughout the year to fulfil all demands in connection with:—

1. The visitation, certification and removal of persons of unsound mind to mental hospitals in accordance with the Lunacy Act, 1890.
2. The visitation and subsequent arrangements for the admission and treatment of “voluntary” patients in mental hospitals as provided for under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.
3. The domiciliary after care and welfare of patients discharged from mental hospitals and recommended for such care.
4. The domiciliary supervision of all notified cases of mental deficiency, the home visitation and welfare of mental defectives under guardianship, and the detailed arrangements arising in connection with the removal of those mental defectives whom it is found necessary to admit to institutions or colonies.

The Duly Authorised Officers are available for duty outside office hours and the two Officers undertake full stand-by for night and week-end duty if required. They are provided with a telephone and the Police Department and the medical practitioners are supplied with information to enable them to contact the officer on duty.

Details of the service are as follows:—

1. Administration.

- (a) The Mental Health Sub-Committee consists of 5 members, 4 being elected members of the Health Committee, and 1 a co-opted member of the Health Committee. The work of this Sub-Committee has been amalgamated into the general work of the Health Committee which meets monthly.
- (b) *Staff.*—The medical direction of the service is the responsibility of the Medical Officer of Health, and by arrangement with the Liverpool City Council the services of a specialist medical officer with experience in both mental illness and mental defectiveness are available,

Two mental health workers are engaged, one male and one female, and these have been designated "Duly Authorised Officers."

- (c) *Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Board and Hospital Management Committee.*—By arrangement with the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, the services of one or more specialist medical officers are available in a consultative capacity in connection with the ascertainment of mental defectives.

The Supervision of patients on trial or on licence from Mental Hospitals and Institutions for Mental Defectives is carried out on behalf of the Hospitals and Institutions by the Mental Health Workers of the local authority.

- (d) No duties have been delegated to voluntary associations.
- (e) No arrangements have been initiated for the training of additional Mental Health Workers.

2. **Account of Work undertaken in the Community.**

- (a) *National Health Service Act, 1946, Sec. 28: Prevention, care and after care.*—During the year 137 pre-care and 466 after-care visits were made. Eight female senile dementia cases were removed to Newsham General Hospital, and one male senile dementia was removed to Westminster House. Arrangements were made for 30 patients to attend Psychiatric Clinics at Bootle General Hospital, Stanley Hospital, and Walton Hospital.
- (b) *Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890-1930.*—Under the Lunacy Act, 1890, as amended by the National Health Service Act, 1946, 23 cases were removed for observation under Section 20 of the Lunacy Acts to Sefton General Hospital, 34 to Ormskirk County Mental Hospital, one to Whiston Hospital, and 4 cases were taken to Walton Hospital owing to lack of Mental Hospital accommodation. Two cases were removed on a Justices' Order (Sect. 21) to Upton Mental Hospital and two to Winwick Hospital.

Two cases were certified by a Magistrate and taken to Rainhill Hospital.

In addition, 80 cases were investigated, 13 voluntary patients were conveyed and escorted to Rainhill Hospital, one patient was escorted

home from Ormskirk Hospital, and one patient was conveyed and accompanied from Bootle Police Court to Rainhill under Sec. 26 of the Criminal Justice Act and later accompanied from Rainhill to Bootle Police Court.

One patient was conveyed and accompanied from Bootle General Hospital to St. Helens Hospital, one patient was conveyed to Walton Hospital for admission to the Psychiatric Ward.

One case was investigated at Bootle Police Station and conveyed to her home at Haydock, Wigan.

(c) *Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913-1938.*

(i) *Supervision of Patients on Licence.*—Thirty-nine visits were made in respect of cases on licence from Institutions, and 40 visits with regard to home reports to Institutions for re-certification purposes.

(ii) *Ascertainment.*—During the year, nine cases were ascertained and found subject to be dealt with. The total on the register at the end of the year was 196, as follows:—

In institutions	...	...	...	...	98
Guardianship cases	...	...	...	...	2
Patients on licence	...	...	...	...	2
Patients under statutory supervision	...				81
Patients under voluntary supervision	...				13

Of the 81 cases under statutory supervision, five were awaiting vacancies in institutions at the end of the year.

(iii) *Guardianship and Supervision.*—Four visits were made to two Guardianship cases at St. Saviour's Convent, Edge Lane, and 527 to voluntary and statutory supervision cases. One defective was taken to Newchurch Hospital, near Warrington, on a "Place of Safety" order.

(iv) *Training.*—By arrangement with the Lancashire County Council eleven cases under supervision attended the Occupation Centre at Olive Hall, Waterloo.

Section VII.

Dental Treatment of Expectant and Nursing Mothers and Young Children

The following report has been supplied by the Senior Dental Officer:—

(a) PATIENTS PROVIDED WITH DENTAL CARE.

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	—	—	—	—
Children under Five	183	183	183	162

(b) FORMS OF DENTAL TREATMENT PROVIDED.

	Extractions	Anaesthetics		Fillings	Scalings or Scaling & Gum Treatment	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Dressings	Radio-graphs	Dentures Provided	
		Local	General						Complete	Partial
Expectant and Nursing Mothers	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Children under Five	333	—	166	—	—	—	16	—	—	—

NOTE.—Owing to the reconstruction of the School Medical Offices in Balliol Road, no clinic facilities have been available during the year for the treatment of expectant and nursing mothers.

X-ray Examinations.—Facilities for X-ray examinations are available at the Liverpool Dental Hospital.

Section VIII.

Communicable Diseases

The number of cases of infectious disease notified during the year is summarised as follows:—

	Cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Deaths.
Paratyphoid Fever	1 (1)	1	—
Scarlet Fever	82 (1)	37	—
Diphtheria	5 (5)	5	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	4	—	—
Erysipelas	4 (1)	1	—
Measles	923 (1)	34	1
Whooping Cough	366	25	4
Infant Diarrhoea (under two years)			
voluntarily notifiable	17	10	3
Pneumonia	39 (1)	8	70
Meningococcal Infections	11 (7)	11	3
Puerperal Pyrexia	9†	—	—
Dysentery	43 (2)	4	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis and Acute Polioencephalitis	1	1	—
*Tuberculosis—			
(a) Pulmonary	180	—	37
(b) Non-Pulmonary	17	—	4

* Primary notifications.

(The totals in brackets give number of cases where diagnosis was not confirmed.)

† Including 3 cases occurring in the Bootle Maternity Home.

Section IX.**Tuberculosis**

Notification Register.—The register on 31st December, 1951, included 311 males and 302 females suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis, and 45 males and 49 females suffering from non-pulmonary tuberculosis, making a total of 707 cases as compared with 670 at the end of 1950.

Incidence.—The number of new cases notified during the year under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, was 197 (180 pulmonary and 17 non-pulmonary), as compared with 165 for the previous year. This figure includes 19 cases transferred to Bootle as a result of the Borough extension.

Notifications during recent years were as follows:—

Year.						Tuberculosis Notifications.
1940	...	...	...	...	...	150
1941	...	...	...	...	...	142
1942	...	...	...	...	...	169
1943	...	...	...	...	...	186
1944	...	...	...	...	...	162
1945	...	...	...	...	...	173
1946	...	...	...	...	...	190
1947	...	...	...	...	...	152
1948	...	..	...	...	...	167
1949	...	...	...	...	...	181
1950	...	...	...	...	...	165
1951	...	...	...	...	...	159

Mortality.—The number of deaths caused by tuberculosis during the year was 41 amounting to 4·55 per cent. of the deaths from all causes and giving a death-rate from this cause of 0·54 per 1,000 of the population, as against 0·88 last year.

Dispensary Register.—On 31st December, 1951, the number of cases receiving treatment was 547 as against 537 on 31st December, 1950.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

Incidence.—One hundred and eighty new cases suffering from pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during 1951, an increase of 35

compared with the previous year. The numbers notified during the past few years were as follows:—

Year.						Notifications of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.
1944	...	...	...	...	...	135
1945	...	...	...	...	...	142
1946	...	...	...	...	...	161
1947	...	...	...	...	...	123
1948	...	...	...	...	...	137
1949	...	...	...	...	...	164
1950	...	...	...	...	...	145
1951	...	...	...	...	...	180

In four cases the first intimation was obtained from the death returns, while in 4 other cases notification was made at intervals of less than three months before death. The non-notified cases, therefore numbered 10·8 per cent. of the total of 37 deaths from pulmonary tuberculosis.

Mortality.—During the year 37 deaths were certified to be due to pulmonary tuberculosis, representing a rate of 0·49 per 1,000 of the population, as compared with 0·84 in 1950, 0·94 in 1949, 0·80 in 1948, 0·81 in 1947, 1·04 in 1946, and 0·87 in 1945. There were 22 deaths among males and 15 among females.

Chest Clinic.—During the year the Tuberculosis Officer examined 388 patients newly referred, of whom 44 were sent by the School Medical Officers for opinion preliminary to notification. Attention continued to be paid to securing the attendance for examination of contacts of notified cases, and during the year 504 were so examined, and 398 Mantoux tests were made. The Tuberculosis Visitor made 2,035 visits to homes of tuberculous patients.

The number of contacts examined and the number of home visits show a considerable increase on the figures for the past few years, largely due to the fact that an additional Tuberculosis Health Visitor was appointed towards the end of 1950. The following table shows this comparison:—

Year.				Contacts examined.			Home Visits.
1951	...	...	...	504	...	...	2035
1950	...	...	...	263	...	...	470
1949	...	...	...	140	...	...	516
1948	...	...	...	75	...	...	553

Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

During the year 17 new cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified, as compared with 20 in 1950, namely:—8 bones and joints, 5 glands, 2 meninges, and 2 other sites.

Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925.—There was no occasion to take action under the above Regulations relating to tuberculous employees in the milk trade.

Public Health Act, 1936: Section 172.—No action was taken under this Section dealing with the compulsory removal of cases of tuberculosis to hospital.

Mass Miniature Radiography.

As stated in last year's report, a mass miniature radiography survey was held in Bootle from January—June 1950. In view of the results of this survey, the Medical Director of the Service considered it desirable to arrange a return visit, and this second survey commenced on 5th November, 1951. It is anticipated that the survey will extend over a period of at least six months, and a report on the findings will be included in next year's Annual Report.

TUBERCULOSIS MORTALITY, BOOTLE AND
ENGLAND AND WALES, 1925-1951.

Year.	Deaths from Tuberculosis (All Forms) per 1,000 population.	
	BOOTLE.	England and Wales.
1891-1900	2·17	2·01
1901-1910	1·76	1·65
1911-1920	1·82	1·42
1921-1925	1·70	1·08
1926	1·5	0·96
1927	1·5	0·97
1928	1·3	0·93
1929	1·3	0·91
1930	1·3	0·90
1931	1·59	0·89
1932	1·34	0·84
1933	1·50	0·82
1934	1·37	0·76
1935	1·17	0·72
1936	1·34	0·69
1937	1·11	0·69
1938	1·05	0·63
1939	1·08	0·58
1940	1·03	0·67
1941	1·62	0·73
1942	1·37	0·65
1943	1·28	0·67
1944	1·14	0·63
1945	1·01	0·62
1946	1·20	0·55
1947	0·92	0·55
1948	0·92	0·51
1949	1·04	0·45
1950	0·88	0·36
1951	0·54	0·31

Section X.

Venereal Diseases

The treatment of Venereal Disease became the responsibility of the Regional Hospital Board as from 5th July, 1948.

The Annual Statistical Report of the Medical Officer of the Treatment Centres shows 563 persons under treatment on 31st December, 1951, as against 580 on 1st January, 1951, and an increase in new cases, the figure being 400, as contrasted with 382 in 1950. The total of 400 included 130 cases in which the diagnosis of venereal disease was not established; there was a slight increase in the new cases of gonorrhoea.

The total attendances for treatment made at the Centre during the year show a decrease from 4,943 to 4,775, the figure includes 182 attendances made between clinic days for the treatment of gonorrhoea at the irrigation centre. During 1951, 195 cases were discharged on completion of treatment and observation, as against 229 in the previous year.

The following table is a statement of the number of cases presenting themselves for treatment during the last six years:—

BOOTLE VENEREAL DISEASES CLINIC.

	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951
New Cases (total)	356	450	436	438	382	400
New Cases (syphilis)	94	92	75	66	75	54
New Cases (gonorrhoea)	249	186	162	168	161	166
Total attendances (excluding Irrigation Department)	8786	7791	6227	5293	4745	4592
Irrigation Department attendances	793	561	753	441	198	182
In-patient Days	140	104	22	...	...	...
No. discharged after completion of observation and treatment	270	250	276	220	229	195
No. who ceased to attend after completion of treatment, but before final tests as to cure	44	135	78	42	32	25

Lancashire County residents accounted for 24·2 per cent. of the new cases under treatment at the Bootle Hospital Centre, the Authorities contributing the next largest number of cases being Bootle with 21·2 per cent. and Liverpool City Council with 11·0 per cent.

Section XI.

Housing

The provision of adequate housing accommodation remains one of the most pressing needs of the Borough. The following information relating to applications for the tenancy of Corporation houses up to 31st December, 1951, has been supplied by the Housing Manager.

No of applicants living in rooms inside the Borough ...	2848
do. outside do. ...	780
<hr/>	
Total No. of applicants living in rooms ...	3628
<hr/>	
No. of applicants who are householders inside the Borough	981
do. outside do.	337
<hr/>	
Total No. of applicants who are householders ...	1318
<hr/>	
Total No. of applicants ...	4946
<hr/>	

The total number of applicants on the waiting list increased during 1951 by 519, the total at the end of 1950 being 4,427.

Applications are mainly from young married couples, and married couples with one child.

The Borough Engineer has supplied the following information relating to houses erected during the year,

Houses erected by Local Authority—A.1 Type	...	24	
A.2 Type	...	16	
A.3 Type	...	220	
A.4 Type	...	12	
B.3 Type	...	18	
		—	290
„ „ „ other bodies and persons	...	...	2
„ „ „ other Local Authorities	...	...	Nil

Two houses were demolished during the year by the Local Authority, and two by other bodies or persons.

Section XII.

Blind Welfare

The administration of the Council's Blind Welfare Scheme is the responsibility of the Social Services Committee.

The number of blind persons on the register at the end of 1951 was 185 (79 men, and 103 women and 3 children). The number of partially sighted persons on the register was 26 (10 men, 13 women and 3 children).

Section XIII.

Sanitary Conditions

The year has been one marked by constant progress, particularly in the abatement of sanitary nuisances. Special duties have been undertaken by the inspectorate with regard to housing surveys, factory inspections and food hygiene.

A basement dwelling survey was completed, detailed reports being submitted to the Housing Committee, and action was taken to remedy the unsuitable conditions under which these families were living.

A register of all factories and workplaces in the Borough has been completed, and office accommodation is now being inspected.

All food premises have been visited, and alterations carried out to comply with modern standards of food hygiene.

Preliminary steps were taken with regard to the confirmation of a Clearance Area, and a site chosen for rehousing purposes.

The statistics which have now been compiled are being constantly used for special reports that are submitted to Committees. It is a source of considerable satisfaction that the majority of premises situated within the Borough have now been visited, and the sanitary conditions investigated.

The addition of Netherton has increased our duties, but the experience in rural work is of great benefit. This area contains factories, food premises, including bakehouses, offices, dining rooms, ice cream premises, a cold store, and building sites.

Action has been taken with regard to aged cottages and cesspools. Registration of ice-cream manufacturers, a margarine works and milk distributors situated in this area, was approved.

A considerable amount of extra work has been caused by smoke nuisances in the factories situated in this area. The co-operation of the personnel has now been obtained, and it is anticipated that there will be an improvement in the near future.

There have been a number of new duties added by the introduction of new legislation, mainly Acts and Orders concerning food preparation, transport and destruction of vermin,

There were 3,588 complaints from householders, and notices were served in respect of 7,498 nuisances, a decrease of 722 complaints on the previous year. This is extremely encouraging, and it is interpreted as showing an improvement in the overall situation.

Constant application of the "work in default" sections has speeded up the abatement of sanitary nuisances, and owners are concentrating on notices served under these sections to complete the work within the time limit which obviates the repairs being carried out by the Local Authority. There is difficulty being experienced with regard to property where the owner is unable to undertake his financial obligations, and the Local Authority is having to carry out this work. A sum of £800 was authorised in respect of a small block of six terraced houses (for the repair of roofs).

The constant surveys for housing purposes have helped considerably in abatement of sanitary nuisances. The assistance of the rodent operators has been obtained on a number of occasions, as during their inspections for infestation of vermin they refer any sanitary nuisances to the district inspector.

The prevention of the spread of infectious disease, and the supervision of premises used for the sale of milk and ice-cream, have been given particular attention; also the enforcement of the provisions of the Food and Drugs Act relating to the adulteration and misrepresentation of foodstuffs; inspection of cases of overcrowding; canal boats, and other special duties occurring from time to time.

Action has been taken with regard to the prevention of atmospheric pollution, which, although reduced, is still excessive. An atmospheric pollution station has been installed in Litherland Road, and records of pollution are obtained. The causes of smoke include absence of mechanical stokers and failure to obtain suitable fuel. Many factories are attempting to meet increased demands for goods for export, with consequent overloading of plant. Lectures are being held in the Liverpool University School of Hygiene, and every effort is made to persuade boiler firemen to attend. All new plans submitted where combustion is necessary are being given special attention, and it is anticipated that the present improvement will be maintained.

SANITARY, FOOD AND HOUSING INSPECTIONS, 1951

	Visits or Insp'tions	Notices Served	Nuisances Found	Notices Abated	Notices O'stand'g
SANITARY COMPLAINTS :—					
Special complaints investigated ...	3,588	3,159	7,498	2,297	862
Houses inspected and re-inspected ...	8,162	—	—	—	—
ROUTINE INSPECTIONS :—					
Inspection of bakehouses ...	139	13	50	9	4
„ „ butchers' shops ...	133	19	32	16	3
„ „ dining rooms (including cafes, restaurants and canteens)	207	25	103	7	18
Inspection of cold stores ...	26	—	—	—	—
„ „ dairies ...	255	6	18	5	1
„ „ fishmongers ...	33	4	7	4	—
„ „ fish and chip shops ...	120	11	24	7	4
„ „ food factories... ..	317	24	161	13	11
„ „ fruiterers shops ...	82	8	5	5	3
„ „ grocers shops ...	158	18	18	18	—
„ „ ice cream premises ...	184	7	20	4	3
„ „ ice cream hawkers ...	12	—	—	—	—
„ „ licensed premises (public houses) ...	242	90	356	51	39
„ „ milk shops ...	65	2	2	2	—
„ „ piggeries ...	16	—	—	—	—
„ „ other shop premises ...	167	16	17	16	—
„ „ canal boats ...	16	2	4	2	—
„ „ schools (kitchens) ...	53	—	—	—	—
„ „ stables ...	18	2	3	2	—
„ „ vacant land ...	5	—	—	—	—
FACTORIES ACT :—					
Inspection of factories (mechanical)	455	118	278	84	34
„ „ „ (non-mec.)	120				
„ „ outworkers premises	—				

Visits or
Inspec.Visits or
Inspec.**SPECIAL INSPECTIONS :—**

Observations for atmospheric pollution... ..	78
General smoke observations ...	
Housing applications—over-crowding	132
Inspection of Corporation houses, voids, etc.	149
Visits—issue of habitation cert. ...	157
Inspections of applications <i>re</i> housing	414
Fumigation of verminous houses...	68
Treatment of furniture by hydrocyanic acid prior to occupation of Corporation houses ...	55
Investigation of infectious disease	100
Re-visits infected houses	42
Contacts infectious disease ...	9
Disinfections carried out after infectious disease	188
Investigations for food poisoning	15
Specimens obtained for examin.	299
Cockroach infestation	112
Drain testing	68

MISCELLANEOUS INSPECTIONS AND**VISITS :—**

Animals—keeping of	13
Aged and infirm persons, enquiries	12
Exhumations	1
Interviews with owners, contractors, etc.	761
Nurseries	1
Poultry Stores	13
Parks	5
Public Conveniences	284
Public health lectures and film shows	1
Rag and bone dealers	34
Refuse tips	12
Second-hand furniture stores ...	18
Storage for ice-cream vehicles ...	9
Other miscellaneous visits and inspections	482

DESTRUCTION OF PESTS ACT, 1949 :—

Complaints investigated	41
Premises inspected	88
Premises infested	38
Visits <i>re</i> insects	17

HOUSING SURVEYS

Survey of houses containing cellars	949
Number of rooms measured ...	805

Public Health Act, 1936.**SUMMARY OF NUISANCES**

Choked/defective drains	...	...	...	...	328
„ „ rainwater pipes	...	...	...	...	804
„ „ wastepipes	...	...	...	...	204
Defective water closets	...	...	...	...	901
„ house roofs	...	...	...	...	635
Defects in domestic water supply	...	...	...	...	349
Defective yard surfaces	...	...	...	...	180
Dampness in dwellings	...	...	...	...	917
Defective plasterwork wall/ceilings	...	...	...	...	919
Defective windows	...	...	...	...	752
Other defects	...	...	...	...	1,509
Total					7,498
Nuisances abated by owners					6,312
Nuisances abated by Corporation (Default/request)					225
Total					6,537

Food and Drugs Acts.**SAMPLES SUBMITTED FOR EXAMINATION.**

Milk for analysis	...	...	...	...	121
Other food for analysis	...	...	...	...	132
Milk for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	199
Milk for Heat Treatment—Phosphatase Test/Turbidity	...	...	...	...	192
Ice cream for bacteriological examination	...	...	...	...	68
Fertilisers and feeding stuffs	...	...	...	...	13
Specials for chemical and bacteriological examination	..	..	..	..	10
Specimens obtained for bacteriological examination					
from contacts	...	...	...	...	299
Unsound food condemned and disposed of by Salvage,					
or destroyed	...	...	11 tons, 11 cwts., 2 qrs., 20 lbs.		

NETHERTON (ADDED AREA)

The following is a list of premises visited, together with the number of visits and reinspections:—

Premises	Number	Number of visits and re-inspections
Mechanised factories and workplaces	19	50
Food factories (includes one margarine works)	3	30
Bakehouses	2	41
Offices	18	88 rooms measured and carded
Shops	12	32
Dining rooms/canteens ...	2	14
Ice cream premises	2	14
Works of engineering (building sites for new factories) ...	2	5
Cold stores	1	16
Pig keepers	1	4

As a result of these visits it was found that registration was required of either the following premises or persons:—

(1) Ice cream manufacturers	Premises and person	... 1
(2) Ice cream retailers	Premises and person	... 1
(3) Sausage manufacturers and preserved meats	Premises ... ..	... 1
(4) Margarine manufacturers and wholesalers	Premises ... ..	... 2
(5) Milk distributors (this includes four distributors with premises outside the Borough)	Persons ... ..	... 5

The incidence of food poisoning, coupled with the increasing interest in food hygiene, is resulting in every effort being made to incorporate modern standards and a higher quality of workmanship in food premises.

Sampling is carried out regularly, and visits are made to shops, food factories, milk premises and ice-cream distributors throughout the Borough. In spite of the care that is exercised by wholesalers and retail distributors, and notwithstanding strict supervision by the inspectors, instances have occurred of insects in food, rat excreta in a meat pie, unsound meat and excessive preservative in food.

The Public Analyst, Mr. J. F. Clark, M.Sc., F.R.I.C., examined 253 samples of food and drugs during the year, of which 92 were statutory and 161 informal. Common foods have been sampled regularly, and special samples have been taken of suspected foods.

A total of 8 samples contravened Acts and Regulations, and included :—

1 Milk.	1 Desert Gelatine.
1 Ice Cream	1 Margarine.
1 Cough Mixture.	3 Tomato Ketchup.

There has been no increase in the adulteration of food or milk, and no serious infringement suspected. The eight samples concerned included milk slightly deficient in fat, ice cream deficient in sugar, margarine with an excess of moisture, tomato ketchup with excessive metallic contamination. The remainder were labelling offences only.

In addition to the 253 routine samples submitted for analysis and examination, there were 10 special samples obtained. Of these 4 were bacteriologically examined and 9 chemically examined. These samples included pressed beef, toffees, tomato soup, sliced loaf and dry rice.

The tomato soup sample was reported as the tinned content of the sample was considerably in excess of the accepted maximum (2 grains per pound). This sample was unfit for human consumption. All other samples were genuine.

Of all the samples submitted for analysis only 6 were found to be unsatisfactory in accordance with the requirements of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938.

Samples totalling 271 were submitted to the City of Liverpool Bacteriologist, Professor D. T. Robinson.

The samples submitted during 1951 included the following :—

Informal Samples		ARTICLE	Statutory Samples		Cautioned	Prosecutions				
Obtained	Adulterated or Sub-standard		Obtained	Adulterated		Summoned	Fined	Withdrawn or dismissed	Amount of fines	Amount of costs to be paid
									£ s. d.	£ s. d.
3	—	Butter	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Beef extract	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Coffee and chicory	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	1	Cough Mixture ... (1)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Cake mixture/decorations ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	—	Colouring and flavouring ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Compound, pepper flavoured.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Cocoa	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
6	—	Coconut/macaroons	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Cherries, glazed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Cordials	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Cream, synthetic	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7	—	Fruits, etc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Fats, cooking	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Figs, syrup of	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Fish cakes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Flour	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	1	Gelatine, dessert ... (2)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Honey	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
14	1	Ice-cream (3)	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Jams	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Jellies and crystals	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Marmalade, canned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	1	Margarine (4)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
31	—	Milk (5)	90	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Oatmeal and barley	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Oils	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Pepper, white	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4	—	Puddings and mixtures ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Pork Pie	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Pastes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Peel, cut mixed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Quinine, ammon. tincture ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Rice	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	—	Salad creams	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Semolina	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
2	—	Suet, beef	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Soda, bicarb.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Stuffing, sage and onion ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Sardines	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Spice, mixed	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Soups	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	Tea	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3	2	Tomato ketchup ... (6)	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
13	—	Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
161	6		92	2	2	—	—	—	—	—

- NOTES: (1) The bottle in carton did not bear any label. Manufacturers informed.
 (2) Sample was labelled with incorrect weight. Referred to Weights and Measures Inspector.
 (3) This sample was deficient in sugar by 40 per cent. (The manufacturer was experimenting with a new mix.)
 (4) Manufacturer informed.
 (5) Slightly deficient in fat (natural causes).
 (6) All stocks withdrawn from sale, and returned to manufacturers. New Stock. Stocks again withdrawn and manufacturers informed.

Public Health (Preservatives in Food) Regulations 1925 - 1927.

The Public Analyst examined 206 samples submitted for evidence of preservatives.

Registration of Factories and Wholesale Premises, Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 34.

(a) Registered margarine factories	...	...	...	2
(b) Registered wholesale dealers in margarine	...	...	...	8
(c) Registered butter factories	...	...	...	Nil
Total inspections of registered premises	...	...	...	58

Milk

Milk Supplies.—There are 88 registered distributors of milk on the Borough Register, and 156 licences are issued under the appropriate Special Designation Regulations, 1949.

There are only two dairymen selling raw milk in the Borough, the remainder selling either Tuberculin Tested, Pasteurised, or Sterilised milk.

There are no farms or shippons situated within the Borough boundaries.

The amount of milk consumed within the Borough is steadily increasing, and it is estimated that some 8,700 gallons are consumed daily. With the exception of 40 gallons all this milk was subjected to pasteurization or heat treatment, or was from tuberculin-tested herds.

Regular inspection of all plant is carried out by a special Inspector, the milk being sampled throughout the entire processing system.

There has been no infectious disease or food poisoning outbreak traced to the supply of milk within the Borough.

Milk Shops and Dairies.—There are 77 milk shops and 16 dairies selling bottled milk, all of which have licences under the regulations.

During the year 320 inspections were made of these premises and a reasonable standard of cleanliness is maintained.

There has been a weekly inspection of the pasteurising plant in the Borough. This plant deals with 3,500 gallons of milk daily, of which 2,000 gallons are consumed within the Borough. There were 111 samples of milk obtained from this plant for the bacteriologist, and of these two failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test. The cause of these failures was satisfactorily investigated.

There have been no legal proceedings instituted against milk vendors within the Borough.

Hospital: Milk Supply.—Milk sampling is carried out periodically at Bootle General Hospital, and 7 samples were taken during the year. Four were submitted for chemical analysis, and 3 for bacteriological examination. The former satisfied all legal standards, and the latter passed the Methylene Blue Test and the Phosphatase Test.

Milk Sampling.—There have been 199 samples of milk submitted for the Methylene Blue Test and 192 for the Phosphatase and Turbidity Tests to indicate the amount of heat treatment to which the milk has been subjected. Seven failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test, and two the Phosphatase Test. The 7 failing to pass the Methylene Blue Test included 4 where the average shade temperature exceeded sixty-five degrees. The other 3 were investigated, and action was taken to obviate the risk of bacteriological contamination occurring in the future.

With regard to the two samples failing to pass the Phosphatase Test the inadequate heat treatment had taken place outside the Borough.

School Milk.—There were 13 samples of milk obtained from schools for bacteriological examination. Two samples failed to pass the Methylene Blue Test and all passed the Phosphatase Test. There were 11 samples submitted for chemical analysis, and all were satisfactory.

The action taken with regard to the unsatisfactory samples is included in the paragraph on milk sampling above.

Registration of Food Preparation Premises.

Premises registered under section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, total 74, including those used for the preparation of sausages, potted or preserved meat, fish or other foods, certain butchers' shops and food factories. There were 392 inspections made of these premises, and the requirements of section 13 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, relating to structure, sanitation, ventilation and removal of refuse were applied.

Dining Rooms, Cafes and Kitchens.

There is still a considerable amount of work required in these premises, particularly with regard to the covering of foods, handling during serving, cooking and general cleanliness.

Constant visitation and the service of notices has produced an improved standard.

There have been 207 inspections of dining rooms and cafes, the total number of premises used for this purpose being 36.

No legal proceedings have been instituted against the owners of any of these premises, as any suggestions made by the inspectors have been voluntarily adopted.

A difficulty in this type of trade is staff education, the temporary nature of the work in some cases causing constant change. The Health Education Officer is assisting considerably by showing films, and distributing literature to personnel.

Ice. Cream

Fifteen samples of ice cream were submitted for chemical analysis, with the following results:—

Sample Number.		Fat content per cent.		Other Solids. per cent.		Sugar content.
1	...	11.0	...	7.5	...	10.0
2	...	14.6	...	10.0	...	12.6
3	...	15.9	...	7.5	...	10.0
4	...	10.7	...	7.5	...	10.0
5	...	8.0	...	8.0	...	10.9
6	...	11.0	...	10.0	...	10.8
7	...	11.6	...	7.5	...	6.0
8	...	7.3	...	9.0	...	12.0
9	...	6.0	...	11.0	...	10.8
10	...	10.0	...	10.0	...	14.2
11	...	12.2	...	10.0	...	10.0
12	...	5.2	...	9.0	...	13.0
13	...	9.0	...	8.0	...	11.5
14	...	5.2	...	8.5	...	13.0
15	...	10.9	...	8.0	...	12.5
Averages		9.9		8.8		11.2

The standards for ice cream are:—

Fat 5.0 per cent.

Other solids 7.5 per cent.

Sugar 10.0 per cent.

There were 111 ice cream premises registered, but only 14 have been registered for manufacture. Of these only 5 are actually manufacturing, 2 are on a "Complete Cold Mix," and the other 7 obtain and sell supplies from wholesalers. Wherever possible, wrapped ice cream in electric conservers is being recommended.

Sixty-eight samples were submitted for bacteriological examination, results being as follows:—Grade 1, 36; Grade 2, 20; Grade 3, 5; Grade 4, 7.

Persons selling ice cream from vehicles are required to be registered in accordance with the Bootle Corporation Act, 1930. The vehicles are inspected before licensing, together with the washing arrangements and the premises where the ice cream is stored at the end of the day. Where a vendor is living in the area of another authority, communications have been addressed to the responsible officer and a report obtained as to the suitability of the person applying for registration and of his premises.

No case of infection reported during the year was traced to ice cream.

Bakehouses.

There are 22 bakehouses situated in the Borough, and special hygienic precautions are being taken in these premises. The washing of hands is insisted upon, and cigarette smoking discouraged.

One basement is still in use as a bakehouse, and is subject to special registration.

Inspections made during the year numbered 139.

Unsound Foods Condemned :—

Total weight, 14 tons 11 cwts. 2 qrs. 20 lb.

Meat (raw).—Beef, Offal, Veal, Pigs feet and tails, Rabbits, Sausages.—Total raw meat, 3,674 lbs.

Meat (tinned).—Hams, Luncheon meats, Corned beef, Assorted tinned meats.—Total canned meat, 3,538½ lbs.

Fruit, etc. (raw).—Currants, Figs, Prunes, Sultanas, Pineapple.—Total raw fruit, 523 lbs.

Fruit, etc. (canned).—Vegetables, Tinned Fruit, Rhubarb, Peas, Carrots.—Total canned fruit, 4,098½ lbs.

Fish (raw).—12,082 lbs.

Fish (canned).—728 lbs.

Milk (canned).—753 lbs.

Other Foods (raw and canned).—Soup, Pudding mixtures, Jam, Cereals, Sweets, Barley, Cheese, Cocoanut, Flour, Eggs (shell).—Total, 7,271 lbs.

Infectious Disease.

There were 100 cases of infectious disease investigated, other than tuberculosis, and disinfections were carried out in 188 cases.

In dealing with outbreaks of food poisoning special investigations were carried out in the homes of food handlers in order to detect any possible carriers of disease in their families. Where any food handler was found to be suffering from or to be a carrier of the organisms of food poisoning the management of the canteen or food factory was informed and in every case a period of leave with pay arranged until the danger had been overcome.

Infectious disease cases nursed at home were kept under observation, and advice was given as to preventing the dissemination of infection. Where isolation was found to be impossible, arrangements were made for removal to hospital.

The local authority is responsible for the removal of all cases of infectious disease landed from ships in Bootle Docks.

Water Supply.

The Borough of Bootle is supplied with water by Liverpool Corporation, the source being upland surfaces in North Wales and Lancashire. It is wholesome and sufficient for all purposes. Periodical bacteriological examinations in the Borough are made by the water undertakers and reports submitted to the Medical Officer of Health.

Throughout the year complaints concerning the water supply have been reduced to a minimum by constant co-operation between the inspectors and the Liverpool Corporation Water Department.

The 349 defects related mainly to waste, or to damage caused by burst pipes.

Prosecutions for Non-Abatement of Nuisances - Public Health Act, 1936, Section 93.

There were two prosecutions for the non-abatement of sanitary nuisances during the year. In one case a Nuisance Order was obtained and the local authority carried out the work at a cost of approximately £600. In respect of the other case a Nuisance Order was obtained and a fine of 40/- was imposed.

Prosecutions have been reduced to a minimum by personal contact, and also by the Corporation carrying out the work in default, as provided for by statute.

It is to be regretted that the Public Health Act is being used as a palliative to secure the abatement of nuisances in insanitary property which should be dealt with under the provisions of the Housing Acts, and consequently only matters of an urgent sanitary nature are remedied in this type of property, improvements and reconditioning being impracticable.

The age of the premises, together with the restricted space, prevents the installation of bathrooms or even the addition of an annexe, to comply with modern standards in the majority of these sub-standard houses, from which complaints are constantly being received.

Rats and Mice Destruction Act, 1919 - Infestation Order, 1943.

There are three permanent rodent operators engaged in carrying out duties under the above mentioned regulations.

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, came into operation during the year. This Act gives the Local Authority power to treat premises in blocks, and will greatly facilitate the work of rodent disinfection.

The staff are carrying out continuous visitation of all premises in the Borough, and all factors giving rise to infestation are immediately dealt with. Many cases necessitate the taking up of floors, yard surfaces and passages, leading in some cases to extensive drainage repairs and reinstatement.

The systematic treatment of sewers is assisting considerably in the prevention of surface infestation. It has been ascertained by test baiting that there are now many sections of the sewerage system free from infestation.

Systematic inspection of private dwelling-houses continued, and during the year 15,155 were inspected. One hundred and sixty-five were found to be infested with vermin, 72 by rats and 93 by mice. The number of complaints from occupiers has been reduced to a very small number, and only 245 complaints were received.

Inspection of Lands and Buildings.—There were 5,106 inspections of lands and buildings, comprising food shops, retail shops, factories, warehouses, schools, offices and cold stores. One hundred and seven of these premises were found to be infested, 51 by rats and 56 by mice. The staff treated 54 of these infestations, the remainder being dealt with by servicing companies under the supervision of the rodent operators. There were 1,707 poison baits deposited by the staff, and of these 870 were taken.

Sewer Treatment.—The sewers have been treated on two occasions, and during April and May, after a ten per cent. test, it was found necessary to treat 530 man-holes. In 153 man-holes infestation by rats was found. During October and November another treatment was carried out, and 530 man-holes were treated, revealing signs of infestation in 133 man-holes. A further test has been carried out in the new sewers which have been laid in the Borough during the year.

Causes of Infestation.—The majority of infestations are found in food storage premises, and the rodent operators have concentrated on such premises.

Smoke Abatement and Atmospheric Pollution.

The essentially industrial character of the Borough is causing an atmospheric pollution problem of some magnitude. Considerable improvement has been obtained, but further efforts are necessary to reduce the sources of pollution.

The use of inferior types of fuel is giving rise to excessive smoke, and it would appear to be beyond the control of managements to reduce this emission.

The problem has been tackled in a sympathetic and energetic manner, alterations to plant have been carried out, mechanical stokers have been installed wherever possible, and the Ministry of Fuel, upon a personal request, have co-operated by supplying an improved graded fuel to the factories having difficulty in preventing smoke emission. The Regional Officer for the North Western Gas Board has been approached regarding extensive alterations to the Gas Works, and consideration is being given to suggested improvements.

General observations have been made throughout the year, and 77 official observations taken. As a result of these observations, 12 notices have been served upon persistent offenders. In the remaining cases management and personnel have been interviewed and advice given to stokers where necessary, or the source of mechanical difficulty ascertained.

The causes of smoke emission included inefficient stoking, unsuitable fuel and defective plant.

Efforts to improve the atmosphere are to some extent offset, as Bootle is subject to considerable pollution from the Dock Estate and surrounding industrial areas.

An atmospheric pollution recording station is established at Linacre Yard, Litherland Road for the measurement of grit and sulphuric acids.

It is pleasing to note that although there have been a number of infringements throughout the year, it was not necessary to institute court proceedings, immediate action being taken voluntarily by all concerned.

Factories.

Periodical visitation of factories has been made, and alterations, reconditioning and suggested improvements have been carried out under the supervision of the inspectors.

There are 206 mechanical factories and 48 factories without mechanical power. Five hundred and seventy-five inspections have

been made, and as a result of these inspections notices have been served in respect of 118 of these premises to secure cleanliness, adequate ventilation, drainage and suitable sanitation.

A number of factories still require modern sanitation, although existing legislation does not specify types of sanitary accommodation. The managements of all factories concerned are keenly desirous of improving the standard of their premises.

The staff have given special attention to the disposal of industrial waste, and detailed inspection has been carried out during the installation of grit tanks, grease traps and intercepting chambers.

A new register of factories and workshops has been prepared.

Homeworkers.

Included in the duties of the Sanitary Department is that of keeping a register of out-workers and for the inspectors to pay regular visits to their homes; at present there are no out-workers on the register.

Workplaces, Including Offices.

The important work of inspection of these premises is being given special attention, and there is no doubt that some workers are working under conditions causing discomfort.

One hundred and seventy-seven premises have been inspected, and alterations to secure improvement in 32 workplaces have been made.

A great improvement in office hygiene can be obtained by decoration, cleanliness of sanitary accommodation, ventilation and lighting. The notices include these requirements.

Second-hand Stores.

Inspection of 16 second-hand stores has been maintained. This work is particularly important to prevent the spread of vermin and infection, particularly in certain areas where the cost of new furniture is more than can be comfortably afforded by the occupiers of houses, who rely upon second-hand clothing or furniture.

It is of particular importance that these articles should be clean and free from infection or vermin, and great importance is therefore attached to this work.

Cinemas.

Inspection of the three cinemas in the Borough has been instituted. These inspections are important, for transmission of infection and vermin is difficult to prevent where large numbers of people congregate. Consequently, it is important that sanitary accommodation, ventilation, lighting, cleanliness and structural defects receive immediate attention.

Offensive Trades.

There are 10 offensive trades carried on in the Borough, and 27 inspections have been made to prevent the emission of noxious fumes or the accumulation of offensive refuse.

There have been no applications for the establishment of further offensive trades during the year.

Public Sanitary Conveniences.

There are 21 sanitary conveniences under the supervision of the Department; all of these provide for males and four of them make provision also for females.

The damage caused to public conveniences by carelessness and destruction is now being reduced by co-operation with the Police.

The public convenience staff consists of 4 males and 2 females, and they cleanse every public convenience at least twice a day, and in special cases three times a day. The ladies' conveniences are kept open until the hour of 10-30 p.m., and open again the following morning at 7-30 a.m.

Special attention is necessary to the public conveniences situated in North Park and South Park during the holiday periods, or when fair grounds are established. It is to be regretted that I have to report that the public conveniences at North Park suffer considerably from damage and dirt during these periods, and it has been necessary to wash the internal walls daily due to the mud and filth that is thrown upon them during these periods.

The inspectors visit the conveniences regularly to supervise the cleansing, and 284 visits were made during the year.

Vermin Infestation.

The routine procedure for disinfection of verminous premises has been maintained. Thirty municipal houses and 38 privately-owned houses were disinfested with suitable insecticides, and the furniture of 55 dwelling-houses was treated with hydrogen cyanide.

Special treatment has been adopted for cockroach infestation, and has been applied to 80 municipal houses, 32 privately-owned houses, 2 schools and 1 public bath.

Special steps have been taken with regard to certain pests, including ants, bed bugs, house flies and lice. This service has been carried out by the local authority at a nominal fee, the occupiers being only too happy to have the pests removed, and 38 occupiers have paid to have their premises disinfested.

Canal Boats

There were 16 inspections of canal boats on the Leeds and Liverpool Canal within the Borough. Two notices were served and 4 infringements have now been remedied. No women or children were found on the boats during inspection. Bootle is not a registration authority.

Stables.

During the summer months stables can be a source of considerable nuisance, and visits to stables are usually increased during this period. Fly infestation is a serious menace, and the methods now adopted are proving effective. D.D.T. is being used to an increasing extent in the spraying of stalls. As a result of 18 special visits to 14 stables, 2 notices were served to remedy defects to drainage, paving, middensteads, walls, windows and lighting.

Exhumations.

The Sanitary Inspector was present at 1 exhumation at a cemetery within the Borough, in compliance with Home Office regulations for the insistence of care and decency, and the prevention of nuisance.

The body was re-interred in another part of the cemetery, the work being carried out very early in the morning, and special care was taken to avoid passers-by observing the operation.

Swimming Baths.

Inspection of swimming baths was carried on throughout the year, and samples of the water taken on 2 occasions.

During the winter months improvements were carried out to the chemical treatment plant, and a new section of the baths is in course of erection.

Hairdressers and Barbers.

These premises are not compulsorily registered, but the inspectors have visited 56 hairdressers during the year, applying general principles of hygiene and sanitation, usually under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Rent Restriction Acts, 1920 - 1939.

There were no applications received under the above Acts.

Caravan Dwellings.

There are no licensed caravan dwellers situated within the Borough, nor are there any sites for this purpose. Periodical fun fairs visit the parks and one other site, but as they are subject to special exemption licensing is not required.

From time to time gypsies visit the Borough, but when informed by inspectors that camping is not permitted they have moved away from the Borough. Application to establish a permanent site at Netherton was refused.

Housing.

Further surveys have been made during the year to ascertain houses suitable for re-conditioning, houses without baths, cellar dwellings and overcrowding.

Acute concern has been expressed with regard to the absence of baths and hot water in 5,594 houses.

Sub-letting.—The result of periodical surveys indicates that there has been little improvement, and there are still 4,900 sub-let houses

in the Borough. These houses are unfit for this purpose, being built originally to house only one family, and there are no amenities for the families now in occupation.

Overcrowding.—The acute housing shortage has prevented the strict application of the overcrowding provisions of the Housing Acts, and action has consisted mainly in the reduction of gross overcrowding, and the prevention of use of unfit premises for sleeping purposes.

During the year 132 reports were made for consideration by the Medical Officer of Health in connection with applications for priority in re-housing. Besides being overcrowded, many cases had a record of chronic infection or other serious illness, and in some cases families were found to be living and sleeping in an attic or basement.

Municipal Houses.—On a change of tenancy, all municipal houses are inspected, and during the year 414 houses have been so visited. Of these, 152 were vacant at the time of visit and 157 habitation certificates were issued after treatment or repair of the premises.

The household effects of 55 new tenants were found to be verminous, and were treated with hydrogen cyanide gas prior to being taken into the municipal houses.

Training of Students.

Three students received theoretical and practical training during the year.

TABLE OF CAUSES OF DEATH AT DIFFERENT PERIODS OF LIFE DURING THE YEAR 1951.

AGE GROUPS.

CAUSES OF DEATH	All Ages		Under 1 year		1—5 years		5—15 years		15—45 years		45—65 years		65 & upwards	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	22	15	—	—	—	—	8	11	9	3	—	—	5	1
2. " other	3	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
3. Syphilitic diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Diphtheria	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5. Whooping Cough	2	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
6. Meningococcal infections	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Acute poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
8. Measles	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10. Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	17	7	—	—	—	—	2	—	5	1	—	—	10	6
11. " lung, bronchus	27	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	14	3	—	—	9	1
12. " breast	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	10	—	—	—	4
13. " uterus	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	4
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	15	24	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	7	—	—	7	15
15. Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
16. Diabetes	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	36	46	—	—	—	—	2	—	7	—	—	—	—	3
18. Coronary disease, angina	51	22	—	—	—	—	2	—	26	3	—	—	27	37
19. Hypertension with heart disease	8	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	22	19
20. Other heart disease	67	85	—	—	—	—	2	—	11	10	—	—	6	13
21. Other circulatory disease	4	5	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	54	70
22. Influenza	18	31	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	—	—	—	2	4
23. Pneumonia	35	35	6	2	1	1	2	2	6	5	—	—	10	23
24. Bronchitis	65	32	1	—	—	—	2	—	8	6	—	—	18	26
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	23	9	—	—	40	23
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	5	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	—
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	10	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
31. Congenital Malformations	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
32. Other diseases	6	42	2	7	1	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—
33. Motor vehicle accidents	44	—	22	8	2	—	1	—	10	8	—	—	9	20
34. All other accidents	1	10	3	3	1	—	4	—	4	2	—	—	2	—
35. Suicide	7	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	4	—
36. Homicide and operations of war	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	465	436												

INFANT MORTALITY, 1951.—CAUSES OF DEATH.

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CAUSES OF DEATH.	Under 1 week.	1—2 weeks.	2—3 weeks.	3—4 weeks.	Total under 4 weeks.	4 weeks and under 3 months.	3 months and under 6 months.	6 months and under 9 months.	9 months and under 12 months.	Total Deaths under One Year.
Small-pox
Chicken-pox
Measles	1	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	2	1	...	3
Whooping Cough
Diphtheria and Croup
Erysipelas
Tuberculous Meningitis
Tuberculosis, respiratory
Other Respiratory Diseases
Meningitis (<i>not Tuberculous</i>)
Convulsions
Laryngitis
Bronchitis	2	...	2
Pneumonia (all forms)	2	4	1	1	8
Diarrhoea	2	...	...	2
Gastritis	1	...	...	...	1
Cancer	1	1
Rickets
Accident	1	1
Congenital Heart Disease	1	...	1
Atelectasis
Congenital Malformations, Birth Injury	14	4	3	1	22	2	1	1	1	27
Premature Birth	14	1	15	15
Atrophy, Debility and Marasmus
Other Causes
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